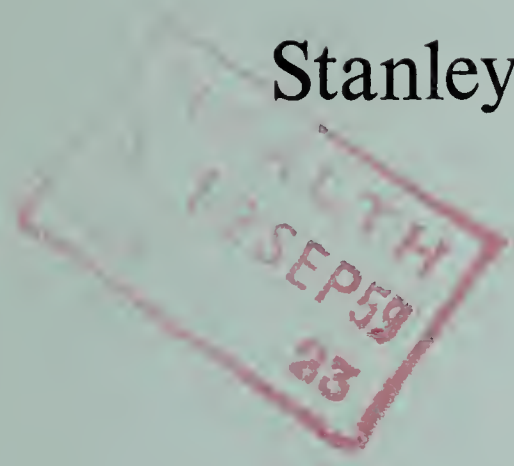


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Stanley Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1958



S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

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S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Council Offices,
Tantobie,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

After eleven very happy years as your Medical Officer of Health I now present my last annual report on the vital statistics, health services and sanitary circumstances of your area for the year 1958.

There were no special incidents or circumstances to which I wish to draw your attention, indeed we were free from any serious diseases, there was an increase in the birthrate, decrease in the death and infant mortality rates, no maternal deaths, no cases of diphtheria, two of food poisoning, and four deaths and only 28 newly notified cases of tuberculosis—the lowest annual tuberculosis notification rate ever recorded in the district. The annual investigation of stillbirths and infant deaths was continued this year in much greater detail and involved close co-operation with general medical practitioners, midwives, maternity hospital staff and the pathologist at Shotley Bridge Hospital who carried out the post-mortem examinations.

Routine was adjusted so that every single available dose of Poliomyelitis vaccine was given as soon as possible.

The importance and value of the personal health services has become more apparent year by year and it will be noted that 48 per cent. of the visits of the domiciliary nurses are to old people while 96 per cent. of those being provided with home-helps are old-age pensioners. The value of chiropody services, etc., and comprehensive schemes for physically and mentally handicapped are being recognised and are becoming a necessity. Social welfare and health are inseparable and fortunately the climate of opinion for the development of these services would appear to be suitable.

We have pressed on very successfully with slum clearance schemes and together with other duties in relation to atmospheric pollution, food hygiene, meat inspection, etc., the staff of the department have been kept very busy.

Finally, I should like to thank the members of the Council for their encouragement and support and the staff of my own department for their loyal assistance during the years I have had the privilege of being your Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY LUDKIN,
Medical Officer of Health.

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I. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT

Area (Acres)	12,658
Population (Estimated)	47,760
(i) Estimated number of children:—	
Under 5 years	3,646
5-14 years	8,277
(ii) Approximate number of Aged People (over 65 years)	4,800
Marriages in the Area during 1958	394
Number of inhabited houses	14,620
(i) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	180
(ii) Number of Council Aged Persons' Homes	284
(iii) Number of Council Houses	4,650
(iv) Number of Houses and Shops combined	189
(v) Number of Lock-up Shops	308
(vi) Number of Occupied Houses under Demolition Orders	47
Rateable Value (1958-59)	
(i) At 1st April, 1959	£352,482
(ii) Net Product of Penny Rate (1.4.59)	£1,159 16s. 10d.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

	Males	Females	Totals
(i) Coal Mining	8,600	200	8,800
(ii) Building and Civil Engineering	300	4	304
(iii) Retail Distribution of Food	620	530	1,150
(iv) Local and National Government	380	100	480
(v) Catering, Hotels, Canteens, etc.	20	350	370
(vi) Road Transport	540	120	660
(vii) Engineering Trades	900	350	1,250
(viii) Clothing Factories	40	450	490
(ix) Brick making	60	5	65
(x) Insurance	50	15	65
(xi) Miscellaneous	2,840	526	3,366
Totals	14,350	2,650	17,000

UNEMPLOYED AND DISABLED

	Males	Females	Totals	%
(i) Employable Persons out of work at the end of 1958	—	—	510	3
(ii) Persons registered as disabled	692	32	724	
(iii) Registered Disabled who were on the Tuberculosis Register at 31.12.58	24	8	32	4.5
(iv) Disabled persons retrained	5	2	7	
(v) No. of persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1958	—	—	15	
(vi) No. of T.B. persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1958	—	—	3	
(vii) Tuberculosis persons retrained during 1958	—	—	1	
(viii) No. of Registered Blind Persons	62	71	133	
(ix) No. of Partially Sighted Persons	10	22	32	
(x) No. of Persons drawing Blind Persons' Pension	5	7	12	
(xi) No. of Blind Persons in receipt of National Assistance	35	33	68	
(xii) No. Registered Deaf and Dumb Persons	18	15	33	
(xiii) No. Registered Handicapped Persons	12	7	19	

During the year there were 26 still-births (32.02 per 1,000 live and still-births) compared with 25 last year (31.45).

In 1937, when the Urban District was formed, the still-birth rate (53.8 per 1,000 live and still-births) was considerably higher than that of the County (45.3) and England and Wales (39.0) but up to 1950 the rates slowly approximated each other, all remaining more or less the same since that date until last year (31.45) and this (32.02) a sudden and at present unexplained rise in the number of stillbirths in the district took place.

DEATHS

					Males	Females	Totals
Deaths during year	..	..	..	..	308	227	535
Maternal deaths during year	..	..	..	..	—	—	—

COMPARATIVE RATES

	England and Wales	Durham County	Stanley
No. of live births per 1,000 population	16.4	18.6	16.46
No. of still births per 1,000 live and still births	21.6	23.2	32.02
No. illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	—	2.9%	2.5%
No. of deaths per 1,000 population	11.7	11.3	11.20
No. of maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	0.43	0.67	—
No. of infant deaths per 1,000 live births	22.5	25.00	20.36
No. of legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	—	25.4	20.89
No. of illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	31.4	—
No. of deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	16.2	17.9	15.27
No. of Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	0.10	0.12	0.08
No. of Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	0.09	0.11	0.06
No. of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	0.01	0.02	0.02

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, *i.e.* rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population were 16.46 and 13.44 respectively.

DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

(see Appendix A)

BIRTHS

					Males	Females	Totals
(a) Live Births							
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	392	374	766
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	9	11	20
				Totals	401	385	786
(b) Still Births							
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	16	9	25
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
				Totals	17	9	26

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. of Still Births per 1,000 population	0.42	0.60	0.37	0.33	0.40	0.39	0.52	0.54
No. of Live and Still Births per 1,000 population	16.79	17.63	16.83	15.49	14.66	16.54	16.66	17.00
No. of Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	24.75	34.20	22.25	21.50	27.06	23.99	31.45	32.02

(a) Infant Deaths

The number of infant deaths for the year was 16 (20.36 per 1,000 live births) as compared with 22 (28.57) in the previous year. Eleven of these occurred within the first week of life.

Our infant mortality rate, although considerably higher in 1937 (64.8 deaths under one year per 1,000 live births as compared with 70 for Durham County and 53.0 for England and Wales) has steadily fallen. This year the rate (20.36) is lower than that for the County (25.00) and also that for England and Wales (22.5).

Whether a child is still born or dies within the first week of life is frequently a matter of chance and as the causes are usually the same, the 26 recorded in the first category and the 12 in the second should therefore be grouped together when considering the problem of prevention. For a long time this group has thus been the hardcore of wasted infant life. Greater attention is now being given to it, and one cannot stress too strongly the importance of adequate advice, medical attention and care of expectant mothers together with the education of the nursing mother in the principles of nutrition and prevention of infections, and of course, more research into the causes of death.

Separate and combined meetings were held at the Richard Murray Hospital to which County Midwives, Hospital Staff, County Council Welfare Medical Officers, the Chest Physician, General Medical Practitioners and myself were invited. These were sponsored by Mr. Hunter, Consultant Obstetrician and also the local Division of the British Medical Association. At these meetings subjects relating to obstetrics and care of the expectant mother and newly born child were discussed. In addition, this will be the third year during which a detailed investigation of peri-natal deaths (still-births and deaths in the first week of life) occurring in Stanley and Consett Urban Districts has taken place. Each year I present a report and each year the scope of the investigation increases till we have now reached the stage where a complete case history of each peri-natal death can be compiled by bringing together records of the General Medical Practitioner, Midwife, Local Health Authority Clinic and Maternity Hospital. A scheme which ensures that as far as possible all such infants are subjected to a post-mortem examination was brought into operation on 1st April, the midwives being responsible for conveying to the Pathologist all still-births and infant deaths occurring in domiciliary practice. Of the 37 peri-natal deaths which took place in Stanley Urban District, 22 had post-mortem examinations by the Pathologist.

The value of this project should increase particularly now that quarterly consideration is being given to these cases and a more accurate diagnosis of cause of death is being made. The cause of death having thus been established

it must then, if possible, be related to some maternal factor or incident occurring during or after delivery. Terms like prematurity and inanition should disappear since they are merely the end result of a disordered pregnancy.

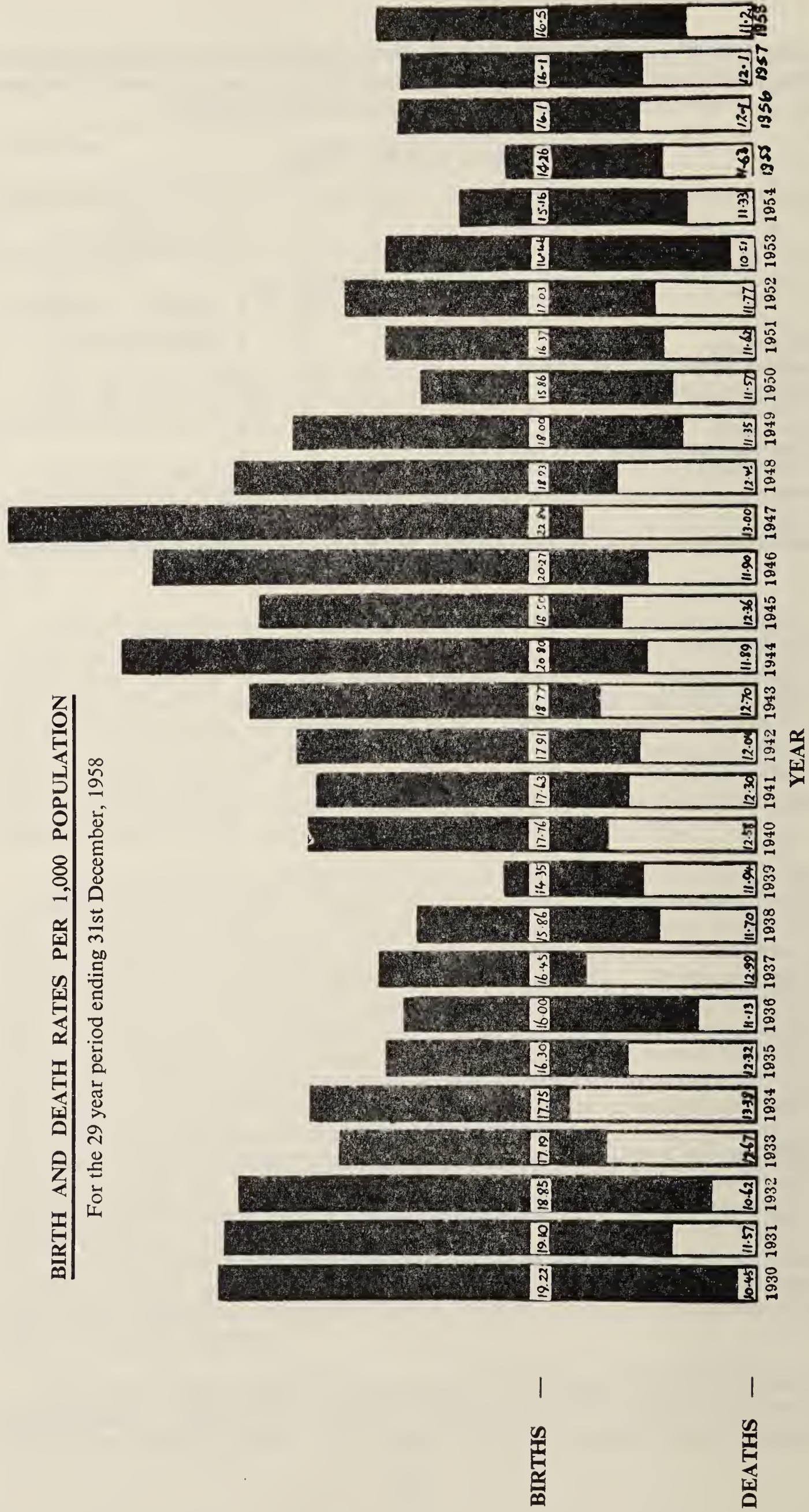
Analysis of Infant Deaths

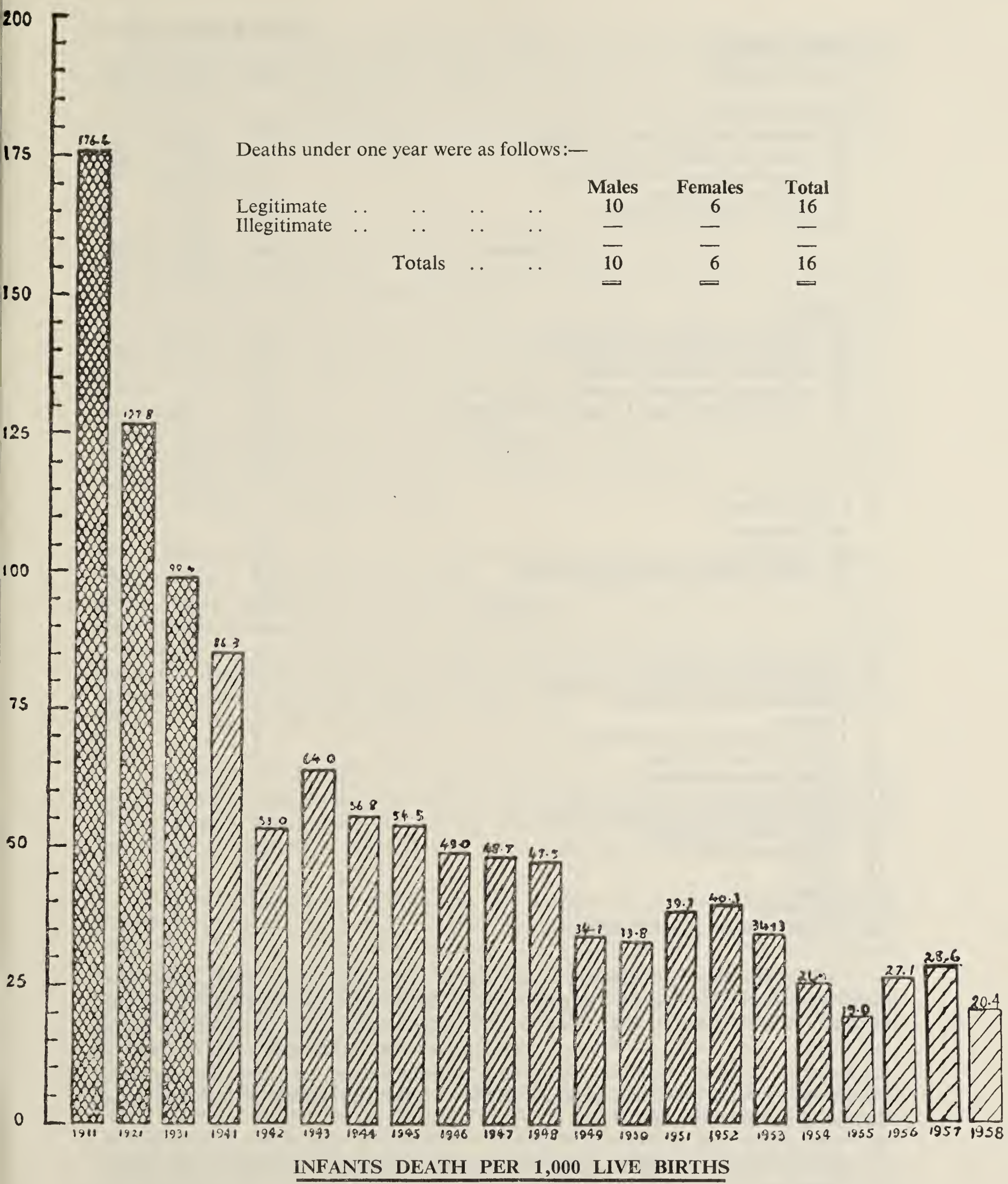
CAUSE	Age at Death		
	* 1 Week and Under.	* 1-4 Weeks.	* 1-12 Months.
Prematurity	10	—	—
Acute Suppurative Otitis Media	—	—	1
Asphyxia (Accident)	—	—	1
Inanition	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage and Fractured Skull (Accident)	—	—	1
	11	1	4

* As accepted and classified by the Registrar General.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

For the 29 year period ending 31st December, 1958





								Males	Females	Total
(b) Deaths (General)										
ALL CAUSES								308	227	535
1. Cardio vascular:—										
(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system								47	40	87
(b) Coronary disease								65	40	105
(c) Hypertension with heart disease								3	7	10
(d) Other heart diseases								26	26	52
(e) Other circulatory diseases								8	10	18
Totals								149	123	272
2. Cancer:—										
(a) Malignant Neoplasm, stomach								13	8	21
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus								5	—	5
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, breast								—	5	5
(d) Malignant Neoplasm, uterus								—	6	6
(e) Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms								27	18	45
Totals								45	37	82
3. Chest Diseases:—										
(a) Pneumonia								8	1	9
(b) Bronchitis								27	8	35
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system								8	4	12
Totals								43	13	56
4. Tuberculosis—all forms								2	2	4
5. Other infective and parasitic diseases								—	1	1
6. Congenital Malformations								—	2	2
7. Diabetes								1	—	1
8. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum								2	—	2
9. Nephritis and Nephrosis								2	3	5
10. Hyperplasia of prostate								—	—	—
11. Syphilitic disease								—	—	—
12. Other defined and ill-defined diseases								34	33	67
13. Motor vehicle accidents								1	3	4
14. All other accidents								16	4	20
15. Suicide								5	3	8
16. Influenza								5	1	6
17. Leukaemia								3	1	4
18. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea								—	1	1

The main causes of death in this district during the year were diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Bronchitis and Pneumonia in that order. It will be noted that there were 5 deaths from Carcinoma of the Lung, all males. It is now, of course, generally accepted that not only is there an association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer but also that cigarette smoking increases liability to the disease—a liability which is reduced when smoking is discontinued.

The number of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis has again increased, this time by 9 deaths. Sixty-five of the 105 deaths due to this disease were in males.

During the year there were 24 accidents causing death ; 11 occurred in the home (10 over the age of 60 years and 1 nine months) 7 occurred at work, 2 drowning and 4 on the roads.

Every era has its own particular medical and social problems ; there is a constant shift of emphasis from one problem to the next as the years go by. Sometimes this is prompted by necessity, sometimes by advances in medical knowledge, while occasionally humanitarian concepts alone dictate the changes. And so, as a result, throughout the ages health and welfare services have been re-orientated in order to adapt themselves and to be of the greatest value to the community.

To-day, many beds in sanatoria and infectious diseases hospitals are empty, while mental hospitals are overcrowded. Deaths from Tuberculosis are dramatically decreasing ; deaths from Cancer and Coronary Thrombosis are increasing. More expectant mothers are being delivered in hospital and still more maternity and ante-natal beds are demanded. More old and chronic sick remain at home and receive out-patient treatment and home nursing with a need for chiropody services and more hostels for those who require accommodation, care and attention not otherwise provided. More community care as opposed to hospital care of those suffering from mental defect or mental illness is to be the next step. In addition, responsibilities will be added because of the possible problems associated with the safe working with or the preparation of radio-active materials for industry, hospitals and research and safe disposal of the resulting radioactive wastes.

More consideration is being given these days to accidents in the homes. While only a small portion are fatal, they continue to cause a great deal of unnecessary suffering and disability apart from any associated inconvenience. Most could be avoided and many others reduced in severity by wider knowledge of risks and precautions and by ensuring that preventive measures are adopted in time. Particular attention should be given where there are children under school age and those over sixty-five years. For every seven children killed on the roads ten die from accidents in the home.

The kitchen and bathroom are the two most dangerous rooms, with their gas taps, electric switches, the various appliances including heaters, fires and of course boiling water, although lounges, bedrooms and stairs, with loose carpets on polished surfaces, trailing flex or loose stair rods can be just as lethal.

So far as burns are concerned, the wearing of safer garments made of flame-resistant material, while it will reduce the risk of burning accidents, will not remove it. The safest measure is to guard the fires. The law requires new gas, electric and oil fires to be fitted with guards but it cannot compel the fitting of guards to old fires or the use of guards with open fires. This must be the responsibility of the individual householder, especially those who have the care of the children, old or handicapped.

In an attempt to assess the number of accidents occurring in the district where either hospital out-patient or in-patient treatment was required and also to distinguish the types of accidents and persons involved, the hospital authorities kindly agreed to provide the appropriate statistics. The investigation commenced towards the end of the year and will continue for a period.

II. HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

A. Environmental Circumstances and Local Authority Services.

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health and County Area Medical Officer for Stanley and Consett Urban and Lanchester Rural Districts:

S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector:

J. W. RICHARDS, M.A.P.H.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

Assistant Chief Public Health Inspector:

G. G. OXLEY, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

District Public Health Inspector:

G. C. BANKS, M.A.P.H.I., Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

E. JOHNSON.

E. BROWN.

Clerical Staff:

T. WATSON ; G. W. MOORE ; J. BAINBRIDGE.

Rodent Operator:

R. NEILL.

(a) GENERAL

Water

The Durham County Water Board provide the public supply from the reservoirs at Smiddy Shaw, Waskerley Park and Hisehope, filtration and chlorination being carried out at Honey Hill, Waskerley. We found a residual of approximately 0.1 p.p.m. of chlorine in all the samples examined.

The Sunderland and South Shields Water Company's and Durham County Water Board's project for the construction of the new Derwent reservoir is being pushed ahead as quickly as possible. Details regarding its design are being considered and the contract for the construction of the large filter plant at Mosswood has been awarded and it is hoped to let the contract for the construction of the dam early this summer. As soon as the contract is let it is anticipated that the work will commence without delay. It is estimated that this reservoir will be able to supply about twenty million gallons of water per day.

Bacteriological quality of the water during the year has been under constant observation and has been of very satisfactory quality. Unfortunately, it has been very highly coloured due to heavy and continuous rainfall and to improve the physical quality of the water the Board proposes to construct a new filter plant at Honey Hill. The natural fluorine content fluctuates between 0.1 and

0.5 p.p.m.—an amount which would have to be supplemented if the maximum benefit is to be derived from this chemical substance in the prevention of dental caries and the premature loss of teeth in children and adolescents.

During the year thirty-six yards of three inch and four inch mains have been laid and cross-connections made between the trunk mains to improve continuity of supply. Work has commenced on the reconstruction in concrete of the Flint Hill reservoir which has a capacity of about one third million gallons.

Six samples of water were forwarded to the Bacteriologist for examination. The results, graded in accordance with the Ministry of Health Report “ The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies 1949 ” were as follows :—

	Grade I	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.
Public water supply	—	—	—	—
Other sources of supply—Springs wells, etc.	2	1	—	3

In addition, one sample of water (mains supply) was forwarded to the Public Analyst’s Laboratory for chemical test and was found to be satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewage

During the year sewage from the district was treated at the various works at East Tanfield, Hustledown, Dipton and Rowlands Gill. Sewer extensions have been carried out for the development of the various housing estates.

In connection with sewage disposal, following representation from the Wear and Tees River Board, the Council have approved a scheme for the provision of humus tanks at the Hustledown Sewage Disposal Works and the agreement of the Board is now awaited before advertising for tenders.

Sanitary Conveniences

During the year 1 conversion of a privy to watercloset was carried out by private contractors making a total of 4,648 conversions since 1931. There are, however, 165 privies which, owing to their position or being part of sub-standard property, still remain in the Area.

The following are the types of conveniences in the Area :—

Water Closets	..	..	14,838
Privies	..	..	165
Dry Ashpits	..	..	3,289
Ashbins	..	..	11,243

Atmospheric Pollution

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 relating mainly to smoke control areas, requirements regarding new furnaces and colliery spoil banks were brought into operation on 31st December, 1956, the remainder of the provisions became operative on 1st June, 1958.

By regulation the Minister of Housing and Local Government has now extended the list of works subject to control under the Alkali, etc., Works

Regulations of 1906. This extended list now includes processes in iron and steel works, gas and coke works, and ceramic works, and the Electricity Board plants, the result of this being that after 1st June, 1958 virtually all forms of pollution from premises controlled under the Alkali Act became subject to control under that Act by the Alkali Inspectorate.

The two bakeries in this area have now changed over to oil firing and the dairy is now using smokeless fuel, while the National Coal Board are pushing ahead as fast as they can with the electrification at the Morrison Colliery. It is a well-known fact however, that half the smoke in the atmosphere comes from domestic stoves and fireplaces burning coal. Most of it is discharged at low level. Normally it is not dark smoke, and is therefore not covered by Section 1 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. The only method of controlling this is of course by establishing Smoke Control areas under Section 11 of the Act.

The Ministry are pressing all authorities in the so-called "black areas" to plan for the establishment of as many of these smoke control areas as possible and is requiring the submission of a scheme for each particular smoke authority area.

Smoke Control Areas involve conversion of all grates in those areas so that they can burn smokeless fuel and of course the using of smokeless fuel will become a necessity. The provision of miners concessionary coal in this area is one of the main obstacles so far as we are concerned.

The recording of atmospheric pollution in various parts of the district, first started in April, 1955, was continued throughout the year (*See Appendix F*).

Refuse Removal and Disposal

This service was transferred to the Surveyor and Engineer's Department at the end of the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests

During the year 834 inspections and re-inspections were made to private dwellings, business premises, local authority properties and agricultural premises (*See Appendix D*).

The maintenance treatments of sewers and sewage disposal works were completed at two six-monthly intervals as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the first treatment from 14th April to 4th May 272 manholes were baited, 84 showing prebait takes and 52 complete prebait takes. No test baits were laid.

From 27th October to 3rd November 95 manholes were test baited, 32 showing bait takes. During the second treatment from 31st October to 21st November 244 manholes were baited, 106 showing prebait takes.

During the year 26 food shops and food preparation rooms and 27 schools were dealt with because of rat or mice infestations. Sixty-two dwelling houses received the usual treatment for the eradication of these pests free of charge.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

During the year 3 licences for the keeping of pet animals were issued and routine inspections were carried out. In order to avoid unnecessary distress

to animals sold from pet shops resulting from ignorance on the part of the purchaser, the Council make it a condition of issue of a licence that the proprietors of pet shops should also issue leaflets dealing with the feeding, care and management of each animal sold.

(b) HOUSING AND FACTORIES

(i) General

The number of applications for Council houses received during January and February, 1958 was 1,725 which were classified as follows :—

Families without Homes	..	..	..	639
Overcrowding (Family Units)	..	..	..	252
Medical	..	..	..	19
Aged Persons	..	..	..	332
Slum Clearance	..	..	..	138
Unclassified	..	..	..	345
Total				<u>1,725</u>

The following Council houses were completed during the year :—

2 Bedroom type	..	..	..	49
3 Bedroom type	..	..	..	28
Aged Persons' Homes with 2 bedrooms	..	..	..	20
Total				<u>97</u>

No. of new Council houses let during the year (including 20 Aged Persons' Homes)	..	104
Casual Lettings (including 24 Aged Persons' Homes)	..	121

The following privately owned houses were completed during the year :—

3 Bedroom houses	..	..	..	2
2 Bedroom houses	..	..	..	13
2 Bedroom bungalows	..	..	..	9
3 Bedroom bungalows	..	..	..	3
Total				<u>27</u>

The total number of persons rehoused in Council houses during the year was 749 (including 61 persons rehoused in Aged Persons' Bungalows).

(ii) Improvement Grants—Housing Act, 1949 and Housing Rents and Repairs Act, 1954

Improvement Grants, as provided for by Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949 were brought into force on 1st January, 1955 and the following particulars cover the year 1958 and the period from the inception of the scheme to 31st December, 1958 :—

No. of Preliminary Applications received by Health Department during Year 1958	..	..	..	..	91
No. of same received since inception of scheme	..	..	..	..	382
No. of Preliminary Applications recommended during Year 1958	..	..	..	..	83
No. of same recommended since inception of scheme	..	..	..	..	338
No. of Preliminary Applications withdrawn during Year 1958	..	..	..	..	7

No. of same withdrawn since inception of scheme	29
No. of Preliminary Applications rejected during Year 1958	6
No. of same rejected since inception of scheme	20
No. of Grants approved during Year 1958	62
No. of Grants approved since inception of scheme	248
No. of withdrawals after grants recommended during 1958	—
No. of same since inception of scheme	5
No. of houses improved and grants paid during Year 1958	33
No. of same since inception of scheme	152
No. of Preliminary Applications deferred during Year 1958	2
No. of same deferred since inception of scheme	3
Total amount of grants paid during Year 1958	£5,741 3s. 1d.
Total of same since inception of scheme	£22,530 18s. 1d.

(The Council's contribution is, of course, only 25 per cent. of these sums).

(iii) Medical Priority

The Council's practice of allocating a number of new houses and casual lettings to medical cases has continued and in view of our concern to reduce the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Area, all this allocation was granted to overcrowded families or families living in insanitary circumstances who had, in addition, one or more members suffering from Tuberculosis.

A total of 81 applicants for Council houses requested medical priority during the year, but only 19 applicants (13 being Families without Homes and 6 Householders) were considered to justify special consideration. Of these, 12 families (40 persons) were rehoused making a total of 187 families rehoused since 1946 on grounds of Tuberculosis.

(iv) Houses Unfit for Human Habitation

One hundred and ten individual demolition orders were made on properties throughout the district. An undertaking not to use 3 houses for human habitation was received from the Owner after Time and Place Notices had been served. This was accepted.

CLEARANCE AREA

Demolition of the 36 properties in the East Castle Clearance Area was completed with the exception of Nos. 17 and 18.

(v) Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	983
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,892
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	96
(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	70

Remedy of Defects, Demolition or Closing of Properties without Service of Formal Notices:—

(1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	45
(2) Number of individual houses demolished	10
(3) Number of individual houses closed	7
(4) Number of Local Authority houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health and demolished	13

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

- (1) Proceedings under the appropriate sections of the 1936 and 1957 Housing Acts:—
 - (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 2
 - (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—
 - (i) By Owners 5
 - (ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil
- (2) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
 - (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2
 - (b) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—
 - (i) By Owners 2
 - (ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil
- (3) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 and Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:—
 - (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 110
 - (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 50
 - (c) Number of houses made fit as the result of undertakings 4
- (4) Proceedings under the appropriate Sections of the 1936 and 1957 Housing Acts:—
 - (a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
 - (b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

(vi) **Overcrowding**

The number of applications on the 1958 Housing List is 252 which are confined specifically to the one-family unit and the selection of tenants is based on the points system of two persons to one room and allowing for separation of children according to age and sex.

The following table shows the number of persons and families together with the number of bedrooms.

No. of Persons in House	No. of Persons	No. of Families	No. of Bedrooms			
			1	2	3	4
3	327	109	109	—	—	—
4	272	68	52	16	—	—
5	295	59	8	51	—	—
6	60	10	2	8	—	—
7	35	5	—	2	3	—
8	8	1	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	997	252	171	77	4	—

(vii) **Rent Act, 1957—Disrepair Certificates**

The following gives particulars of applications for Certificates of Disrepair and action taken during the year :—

(1)	No. of applications received (Form I)	.. .. .	44
(2)	No. of Notices to landlords of the Proposal to Issue Certificates of Disrepair (Form J)	.. .. .	44
(3)	No. of properties where repairs have been carried out after Form J's have been issued	.. .. .	2
(4)	No. of Undertakings to Remedy the Defects within Six Months received from landlords (Form K)	.. .. .	27
(5)	No. of Undertakings carried out within six months	.. .. .	12
(6)	No. of Undertakings not carried out within six months	.. .. .	7
(7)	No. of Disrepair Certificates (Form L.) issued	.. .. .	24
(8)	No. of properties where repairs have been carried out after Disrepair Certificates have been issued	.. .. .	3
(9)	No. of Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair on the Grounds that the Defects have been Remedied (Form M) received from landlords	.. .. .	7
(10)	No. of Notices served upon Tenants that the Local Authority propose to cancel the Certificate of Disrepair unless objection is received within three weeks of the Notice (Form N)	.. .. .	7
(11)	No. of objections received from tenants against the cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	.. .. .	4
(12)	No. of applications from tenants for a Certificate as to the remedying of Defects specified in a Landlord's Undertaking to remedy Defects (Form O)	.. .. .	1
(13)	No. of Disrepair Certificates cancelled	.. .. .	3

(viii) Factories

During the year 136 inspections were carried out in the factories in the Area. (See Appendix C).

The following is a list of factories in the Area at the 31st December, 1958 :—

Ice Cream Manufacturers	.. .. .	6
Bakers	.. .. .	8
Butchers	.. .. .	22
Mineral Water Manufacturers	.. .. .	1
Milk Pasteurisers	.. .. .	1
Clothing Manufacturers	.. .. .	4
Dressmakers and Milliners	.. .. .	4
Printers	.. .. .	1
Ink Manufacturers	.. .. .	1
Plumbers	.. .. .	4
Builders and Contractors	.. .. .	13
Joiners	.. .. .	5
Painters	.. .. .	7
Blacksmiths	.. .. .	2
Boot Repairers	.. .. .	2
Radio Repairers	.. .. .	3
Brick and Tile Manufacturers	.. .. .	2
Watch Repairers	.. .. .	3
Glove Manufacturers	.. .. .	1
Drycleaners	.. .. .	1
Electrical Engineering	.. .. .	2
Marine Dealers	.. .. .	2
Motor Repairers	.. .. .	23
Wetherite Plant	.. .. .	1
Building Sites	.. .. .	7
Ball Bearing Factory	.. .. .	1
Sawmill	.. .. .	1
Cycle Repairer	.. .. .	1
Slaughter Houses	.. .. .	7

136

There were 8 out-workers in the Area at 31st December, 1958.

(c) GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Analysis of inspections and notices under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

	Inspect- ions and Re-visits.	No. of Informal Notices Served.	No. of Statutory Notices Served.	Defects Remedied after Notice.
Housing : Public Health and Housing Acts	1,892	88	2	66
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences : Insufficient	14	2	—	1
Defective	45	41	2	28
Drainage	235	48	2	47
Water Supply	12	—	—	—
Food Premises	389	26	—	12
Shops Act	75	1	—	1
Dairies and Milkshops	17	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses—Private	60	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	21	4	—	4
Factories and Workplaces	136	11	—	11
Keeping of Animals	8	—	—	—
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	11	4	—	6
Offensive Accumulations	42	1	—	—
Atmospheric Pollution	99	2	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	834	2	—	2
Rent Act, 1957	115	—	44	17
Infectious Diseases	135	—	—	—
Meat and Foods	552	—	—	—
Aged Persons' Welfare	18	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	285	—	—	—
Totals.. .. .	4,985	230	50	195

(d) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(i) General

Inspection of the 417 premises (food preparation rooms, shops, cafes, public houses, etc.) was carried out. Attention was mainly devoted to premises where food is prepared while meat inspection of all animals slaughtered for human consumption was also considered one of the priorities. However, a commencement was made in the last few months of the year on the inspection of all public houses and clubs in the area. Generally speaking the bars and serving rooms of these licensed premises were of adequate standard. The cellars were frequently neglected and in some cases sanitary accommodation was poor. The better maintained premises belong to the larger breweries and clubs with efficient management committees. An opportunity was taken to stress the principles of hygiene where this was necessary. Unhygienic practices occurred in certain premises quite often because of ignorance of the possibility of spreading infection. In some of the premises either the structural condition or the hygienic standards or both left something to be desired and it is hoped that this survey, as well as giving us up-to-date information, will also be a basis from which we can work to raise the general standard.

In all, 389 inspections were made of the various types of food establishments and 26 informal notices were served on the owners to carry out certain works, twelve of these notices were complied with and 2 withdrawn (new premises erected) during the year.

(ii) **Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949**

The following were on the register at the 31st December, 1958 :—

Dairies (not dairy farms)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Distributors	..	..	..	..	122

(iii) **Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954**

There were no licences issued during the year under review.

(iv) **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949-1953.**

The following licences were issued during the year under review :—

Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	..	..	34
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	..	..	98
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) "	..	..	30
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	..	..	2
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) "	..	..	2

(v) **Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

Routine inspections were carried out at premises used for the manufacture sale and storage of food.

The following premises were registered under the Act :—

Ice Cream Manufacture	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Ice Cream Storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Ice Cream Sale	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	138
Preparation or manufacture of Sausages, Potted or Pressed Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Preparation of Preserved Food—Fried Fish and Chips	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37

In addition there are the following premises :—

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Shops:—									
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Wet Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80
School Kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

(vi) **Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952**

All premises used for the manufacture and storage of Ice Cream were inspected during the year and a good standard of hygiene was maintained.

Samples of Ice Cream were taken from producers and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

Results were as follows :—

						No. of Samples
Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	23
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	2
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	4
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total	..	..	..	..	..	32

(vii) Meat and Other Foods

Slaughter-houses — Seven privately-owned slaughter-houses are licenced for use throughout the district and are situated in Burnopfield, Tantobie, Annfield Plain, Stanley, South Moor and Craghead. Two of these, Craghead and Annfield Plain, are not in use at the present time. Three hundred and ninety two visits were made for the purposes of post mortem and ante mortem inspection and 100 per cent. inspection of all dressed carcasses was obtained. Details of carcasses and their organs which were condemned are given in Appendix D.

Condemned meats are stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations and disposal is arranged by a bye-product firm on Tyneside who specialise in this type of work.

The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, which came into operation on 1st January, 1959 were brought to the notice of the owners of slaughter-houses.

During the year the following animals were slaughtered in private slaughter-houses in the Area :—

Cattle excluding cows	..	..	..	..	865
Calves	..	..	..	..	1
Sheep	..	..	..	..	1,911
Pigs	..	..	..	..	102
Cows	..	..	..	..	—
Total					2,879

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed:—

301 tins Meat	13½ lbs. Meat
70 tins Corned Beef	146 lbs. Beef
8 lbs. Mutton	19 lbs. Bacon
1 box Meat Pies	10 tins Chicken
1 tin Sausage	62 tins Fish
17 tins Soup	2 tins Broth
834 tins Fruit	9 stakes Bananas
274 tins Vegetables	28 cwt. Vegetables
12 pkts. Buttered Beans	7 Turnips
81½ lbs. Margarine	56 lbs. Butter
24 pkts. Cheese	42 pkts. Dripping
19½ lbs. Lard	39 tins Milk
3 tins Cream	13 tins Syrup
5 tins Rice	62 pkts. Cereals
8 pkts. Desicated Coconut	4 pkts. Lump Sugar
2 jars Pickles	9 loaves Bread
3 Cakes	6 boxes Cakes
1 pkt. Biscuits	28 Chocolate Bars
7 boxes Ice Cream	3 pkts. Ice Cream
48 blocks Ice Cream	

(viii) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 and Amendment Act, 1954

There were 48 licensed slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year.

(e) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There was a decrease in the number of confirmed cases during the year compared with 1957 (823 as against 1,999) due mainly to a decrease in the number of Measles cases.

For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see Appendix B.

Laboratory Facilities

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The service of the Public Health Laboratory has continued to be used extensively by General Practitioners.

Year						Specimens Submitted	Positive
1948	..	..	..	..	..	568	77
1949	..	..	..	..	..	887	159
1950	..	..	..	..	..	2,475	493
1951	..	..	..	..	..	1,335	292
1952	..	..	..	..	..	1,039	139
1953	..	..	..	..	..	3,649	653
1954	..	..	..	..	..	1,271	199
1955	..	..	..	..	..	2,354	548
1956	..	..	..	..	..	1,340	231
1957	..	..	..	..	..	1,157	201
1958	..	..	..	..	..	1,119	149

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department, Chest Clinic and Medical Practitioners in the Area for examination during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations

								Number of Specimens submitted	Positive
Blood : Culture	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Faeces :									
(a) Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	}	349	113
(b) Other Organisms	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swabs : (Throat, Nasal and Ear)									
(a) Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	}	5	2
(b) Haemolytic Streptococci	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Other Organisms	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sputum for Tuberculosis :									
* (a) Chest Clinics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	727	34
(b) Other Medical Services	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	—
Water	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	—
Totals								1,119	149

* Taken from 364 Cases.

Communicable Diseases in Hospitals

During the year all cases of infectious disease needing hospitalisation were admitted to Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Notifiable Diseases reported during the Year 1958

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Area during the year.

Disease	Total Number of Cases Notified	Total Number of Cases Confirmed	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	64	64	—	—
Whooping Cough	38	36	5	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1	—
Measles	566	566	1	—
Pneumonia	31	33	3	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	89	89	1	—
Erysipelas	4	4	2	—
Food Poisoning	3	2	—	—
	797	795	13	3

Scarlet Fever. There were 64 cases notified as compared with 145 last year. The infections were mild in type, none were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Measles. An outbreak of Measles occurred during the later months of the year reaching its peak in November (244 cases). In all, there were 566 cases notified (see Appendix B. for age distribution). There were no deaths from this disease.

Whooping Cough. Thirty-eight cases were notified (36 confirmed) throughout the Area. The use of Whooping Cough vaccine either alone or combined with Diphtheria antigen has now been proved to be of value in the protection of the very young infants with the result that immunisation against this disease is becoming more and more popular. The County Council provide general medical practitioners in the area with both Whooping Cough vaccine and combined Diphtheria-Whooping Cough antigen under the Council's arrangements for vaccination and immunisation. (For numbers immunised see Table on Page 31).

Poliomyelitis. No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during the year. We pressed ahead as fast as we could with the vaccination scheme as and when the vaccine became available, and in fact by 31st December, 1958 (and this includes 1956 and 1957 figures) 3,410 had received two injections while 1,309 had received the complete course of three injections. In the last quarter of the year, the Ministry of Health agreed that the vaccination scheme should also include all those under the age of 26 years in addition to expectant mothers and special priority groups.

The question of how long immunity produced by three injections will last will only be answered in time, however, it can be fairly claimed that such immunisation has provided a protective effect so far for two to three years following inoculation. Vaccines when subjected to rigorous safety tests have proved to be safe and have not caused undue reactions. It would appear therefore that if a large enough proportion of the susceptible childhood and

adolescent population becomes adequately protected, great changes are to be expected in the epidemiology of the disease and the present pattern of infection and natural immunity may be permanently altered with possible further shift of incidence to the older age groups. Also, with larger numbers protected one would expect a limitation in the number of cases and rate of spread to the non-immune, hopes which American doctors claim to have materialised in their country.

Food Poisoning. During the year only 3 cases of Food Poisoning were notified, two of which were confirmed. The responsible organisms was Salmonella Typhimurium. Both cases were from the same family, were treated at home and recovered from the disease fairly rapidly. It was necessary however, to exclude one food handler from work.

Influenza. Ambulance Drivers from the Stanley Depot received their second injections of Influenza vaccine during the month of January. There were 6 deaths from this disease during the year.

Diphtheria. One case of this disease was notified during the year but this diagnosis was not confirmed. The last case in the district occurred in 1955 and the last death in 1951. However, it is still important to ensure that all children continue to be adequately immunised and in particular to secure immunisation of not less than 75 per cent. of babies before their first birthday. Unfortunately, the percentage of those immunised under one year is low. At the end of 1958 only 50 per cent. of children under 5 years of age had received the necessary injections within the last 4 years and only 15 per cent. of school children could be considered to have adequate immunity. The accumulating numbers of susceptibles will therefore be exposed to considerable risk should an epidemic occur.

The total numbers (all age groups) immunised during the year were as follows :—

Primary Injections	..	..	..	..	606
Boosters	..	..	..	..	326

Number of cases and deaths from Diphthera since 1937 are as follows:—

Year	No. of Cases	No. of Deaths
1937	332	13
1938	395	23
1939	196	6
1940	173	10
1941	105	3
1942	125	3
1943	113	4
1944	145	5
1945	97	6
1946	37	1
1947	11	1
1948	3	1
1949	1	—
1950	2	—
1951	1	1
1952	—	—
1953	1	—
1954	—	—
1955	2	—
1956	—	—
1957	—	—
1958	—	—

Dysentery. There were 89 notified cases during the year as compared with 120 in the previous year. The worst months were January to April when a total of 64 cases were diagnosed. The disease was usually mild in nature with clinical recovery in a few days but 1 case had to be removed to hospital. During the year it was necessary to exclude a District Nurse and a food handler (a part-time shop assistant) from work.

The difficulty experienced with odd persistent excretors, particularly among school children, could only be dealt with by impressing upon those affected the importance of personal hygiene. There is no doubt whatsoever that there is a large reservoir of infection throughout the district in the form of symptomless carriers and convalescent excretors. While early diagnosis and adequate treatment are of course necessary, control of the disease in a community depends on the clean habits of the individuals.

Tuberculosis. Fewer new cases of Tuberculosis (28) were discovered this year than ever before. There is no doubt that this disease is retreating rapidly. Early diagnosis and successful immediate treatment is now possible and the few remaining old chronic infective cases are watched carefully to prevent spread of the germ and thus infection.

Four deaths occurred (2 female and 2 male), their ages at the time of death being 29, 51, 52 and 1 age unknown. The second of these cases was notified for the first time at death.

For the fifth consecutive year in addition to the scheme for the B.C.G. vaccination of contacts of Tuberculosis cases at the Chest Clinic, eligible school-leavers were again given B.C.G. vaccine at the various schools during school hours. By increasing artificially their immunity to Tuberculosis these children should have a much better chance of resisting disease should they be exposed to infection during the more susceptible 15 to 21 year age period.

All the milk retailed in the area is now heat treated in such a way that the tubercle bacilli are killed.

During the year 4 Council houses and 1 private house, previously occupied by persons suffering from Tuberculosis, were fumigated and disinfected.

1. Statistics

							Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
(a) No. of new cases notified during the year:—									
Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	10
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	5	18
							<u>22</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>28</u>
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>22</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>28</u>
(b) No. of deaths registered:—									
Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
							<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
(c) No. of cases on the Tuberculosis Register:—									
Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	211	43	254
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	208	45	253
							<u>419</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>507</u>
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>419</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>507</u>

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows:—

Age Period	C A S E S				D E A T H S			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
26—30	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
31—35	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
36—40	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
41—45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—50	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
51—55	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
56—60	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
61—65	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66—70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
71—75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
76—80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ..	9	13	1	5	1	2	1	—
	22		6		3		1	
	28				4			

Number and Rates per 1,000 population of notifications and deaths together with Sanatoria admissions over the last 25 years are as follows :—

Year	No. of Notifications	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Sanatoria Admissions
1934	64	1.3	34	.75	—
1935	67	1.4	22	.49	—
1936	57	1.2	24	.66	—
1937	52	1.0	21	.41	—
1938	85	1.6	18	.35	—
1939	74	1.5	25	.50	—
1940	70	1.5	27	.56	—
1941	66	1.4	32	.69	—
1942	52	1.1	22	.48	—
1943	73	1.6	30	.66	—
1944	53	1.1	21	.46	—
1945	45	0.9	26	.56	—
1946	67	1.2	24	.50	28
1947	83	1.7	34	.70	29
1948	91	1.8	30	.61	31
1949	73	1.5	17	.35	37
1950	64	1.3	16	.33	29
1951	96	2.0	8	.16	68
1952	63	1.3	11	.23	64
1953	58	1.2	11	.23	40
1954	67	1.4	5	.10	68
1955	38	0.8	13	.27	56
1956	39	0.8	3	.06	49
1957	43	0.9	5	.10	40
1958	28	0.6	4	.08	37

Tuberculosis Services in the Area

(i) At the Chest Clinic at South Moor Hospital there are special sessions for contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis.

During the year 85 contacts were skin tested, 76 found to be tuberculin negative and 73 of these were vaccinated with B.C.G.

(ii) Those needing sanatorium treatment are in the main admitted to the Maiden Law Tuberculosis Unit ; those needing major surgical treatment being transferred to Seaham Hall, Poole or Wolsingham Sanatorium. During the year 37 cases of Tuberculosis were admitted for hospital treatment.

(iii) There were 507 patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, a special register being kept of infectious cases. Most newly notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are now registered by the Ministry of Labour and National Service as disabled persons and before being allowed to return to work, the patient is assessed at the clinic, and if appropriate, a course of industrial rehabilitation at the Felling Unit is arranged by the Disablement Resettlement Officer, after which in most cases suitable employment is found. All these patients are regularly supervised, a very close co-operation existing between the D.R.O. and the Chest Physician. During the year 3 patients received special rehabilitation and 1 was retrained.

(iv) After-care responsibility rests entirely with the Durham County Council. Nursing requisites are stored in Durham City.

(v) The annual vaccination with B.C.G. of all eligible school children between their 13th and 14th birthday, providing parents consent to the procedure was carried out during the month of November when 610 school-leavers at 11 schools were tuberculin-tested and 451 were given B.C.G. vaccine. (*See details on page 28*).

(vi) Twelve Council houses have been allocated to potentially infectious Tuberculosis cases who are living in overcrowded circumstances. A total of 187 families have been rehoused since 1946 on grounds of Tuberculosis.

(vii) The Mass Radiography Unit visited Stanley, Craghead and Annfield Plain from 30th June to 30th July. The following are the details of these visits:—

		Males	Females	Total
No. X-rayed :				
(a) No. of miniature films	.. ..	1,227	1,046	2,273
(b) No. of large films (no miniature)	.. ..	1	1	1
(c) No. recalled for large films	.. ..	121	16	137
Abnormalities revealed :				
(a) Malignant Neoplasm	.. ..	1	—	1
(b) Tuberculosis—cases notified	.. ..	1	—	1
No. referred to Chest Clinic	.. ..	48	5	53

**B.C.G. VACCINATION OF ELIGIBLE SCHOOLCHILDREN IN THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT
NOVEMBER, 1958.**

(1) School.	(2) Estimated No. in Age Group	(3) Consents.		(4)* Given Skin Tests.		(5) Positive Reactors.		(6) Negative Reactors. given B.C.G.		(7) No. Absent at time of Readings.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Burnopfield Modern	..	77	86.52	73	94.81	13	17.81	58	79.45	2
Dipton St. Patrick's R.C.	..	12	70.59	9	75.00	1	11.11	7	77.78	1
Collierley Modern	..	27	67.50	20	74.07	4	20.00	14	70.00	2
Catchgate Modern	..	72	92.31	70	97.22	15	21.43	44	62.86	11
Annfield Plain Modern Boys	..	55	80.88	52	94.55	13	25.00	37	71.15	2
Annfield Plain Modern Girls	..	62	84.93	59	95.16	16	27.12	41	69.49	2
Shield Row Modern Boys	..	71	73.20	65	91.55	9	13.85	45	69.23	11
Shield Row Modern Girls	..	91	82.73	83	91.21	12	14.46	65	78.31	6
Stanley Grammar School	..	90	93.75	79	87.78	13	16.46	63	79.75	3
Bloemfontein Modern	..	62	95.38	56	90.32	8	14.29	43	76.78	5
Towneley Memorial	..	47	94.00	44	93.62	10	22.73	34	77.27	—
TOTAL	..	666	85.06	610	91.59	114	18.69	451	73.09	45

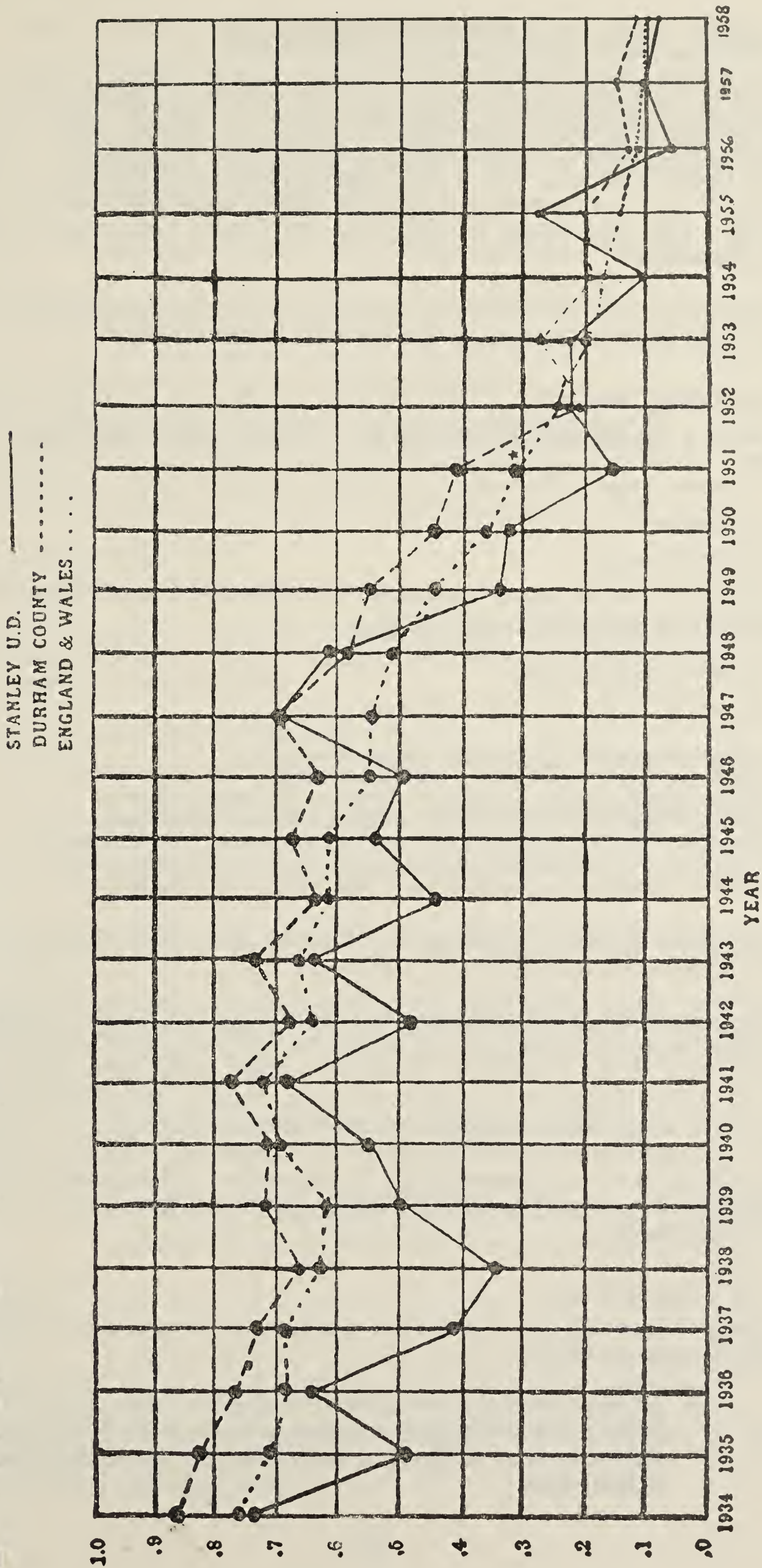
Notes : * Column 4(b) gives % of acceptors given skin test.

The Heaf Multiple Puncture Skin Tuberculin Test was used. B.C.G. was given in doses of 0.1 ml. intra-dermally.

It will be noted that 18.7% of those given a Tuberculin Test were found to be positive as compared with 13.2% in same age group in 1957, 19.3% in 1956, 19.6% in 1955, 23.5% in 1954 and 35.0% in 1949. In November, 1958, 73.1% were Tuberculin negative.

PER YEAR

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY RATES 1934-1958



B. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

In 1948 the County Council adopted the Ministry approved scheme for dividing the Administrative County into Areas for each of which an Area Health Sub-Committee was appointed. Lanchester Rural, Consett Urban and Stanley Urban Districts, with a total population of approximately 102,000, comprise No. 3 Area, meetings of the Area Health Sub-Committee being held quarterly. The Area Office is situated at the Health Department, Council Offices, Tantobie.

The County Medical Officer has kindly agreed to the incorporation in this report of the statistics relating to the personal health services.

(a) Health Centres

There is no immediate prospect of a Health Centre being built in the District.

(b) Clinics

(i) Birth Control

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, East Stanley on alternate Friday mornings.

(ii) Ante and Post-Natal

Ante-natal clinics are held as follows:—

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Friday afternoons.

U.M. SCHOOLROOM, BURNOPFIELD—Alternate Thursday mornings.

HEDLEY MEMORIAL HALL, CRAGHEAD—Alternate Wednesday mornings.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE, DIPTON—Alternate Thursday afternoons.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, EAST STANLEY—Friday mornings.

ST. GEORGE'S PAROCHIAL HALL, SOUTH MOOR—Alternate Friday mornings.

WESLEYAN SCHOOLROOM, TANFIELD LEA—Alternate Tuesday afternoons.

Post-natal clinics are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, East Stanley on alternate Friday mornings.

Apart from the purely medical aspect of ante-natal care there is of course a side to this subject which is frequently forgotten. Sympathetic understanding and the alleviation of the fears of the expectant mother, particularly those having their first baby, education in general nutrition, hygiene, the course of labour and gas and air or trileine analgesia are all a necessary part of good ante-natal care. Thus, if hospitals or family doctors themselves are unable to undertake health education or to organise classes for relaxation and ante-natal exercises, undertaking this centrally at a Local Health Authority Clinic will be a possible future development.

(iii) Child Welfare

Child Welfare Clinics have a dual medical and educational function, the emphasis at present being on

- (a) periodic medical supervision of all children from the age of one to five years, where special attention is given to the early detection of defects such as deafness, speech problems, spasticity, squint and dental caries ;

- (b) prophylaxis against infectious diseases, and
- (c) individual and group education of parents in child care. Included in this health education programme is accident prevention, advice on behaviour difficulties with special consideration given to premature babies, illegitimate, deprived or neglected infants and members of problem families.

These services should supplement and not replace the General Practitioners' Service.

Clinics are held as follows :—

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Tuesday afternoons.
 U.M. SCHOOLROOM, BURNOPFIELD—Alternate Thursday afternoons.
 HEDLEY MEMORIAL HALL, CRAGHEAD—Alternate Wednesday afternoons.
 COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE, DIPTON—Alternate Thursday mornings.
 PAROCHIAL HALL, SOUTH MOOR—Alternate Monday afternoons (Children).
 MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, EAST STANLEY—Wednesday mornings.
 WESLEYAN SCHOOLROOM, TANFIELD LEA—Alternate Tuesday mornings.

(iv) Artificial Sunlight.

Clinics are held as follows:—

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Tuesday mornings and alternate Friday mornings.
 MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC, EAST STANLEY—Wednesday afternoons and alternate Friday afternoons.

(v) Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation and vaccination of children has been carried out by:—

- (i) Infant and Child Welfare Clinic Medical Officers (against Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Smallpox).
- (ii) General Practitioners by personal arrangement with parents.
- (iii) School Medical Officers (against Poliomyelitis and Tuberculosis).

When a child reaches the age of three months, propaganda material is sent through the post to all parents. Details of facilities together with consent forms for smallpox vaccination and diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation are enclosed with this literature. When a child reaches the age of twelve months and 4 years 9 months, further propaganda pamphlets regarding diphtheria immunisation are sent.

Particulars of Immunisation and Vaccination during 1958

	Diphtheria Immunisation.		Whooping Cough Immunisation.		Diphtheria: Whooping Cough Immunisation.		Smallpox.	Poliomyelitis (Injections).		
	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Vaccination	One	Two	3rd.
General Practitioners	174	202	4	—	130	28	172	—	—	—
Local Health Authority Clinics	72	96	34	—	230	—	153	171	2682	1309
TOTALS	246	298	38	—	360	28	325	171	2682	1309

So far as Poliomyelitis vaccination was concerned special clinic sessions were arranged the injections being given by either General Medical Practitioners or Local Health Authority doctors.

(vi) School Clinic

The clinic at High Street, East Stanley is open daily and is attended on Mondays and Thursdays by the full-time School Medical Officer who also carries out the routine medical inspections of children at the schools in the Urban District.

(c) Nursing in the Home and Midwifery Services

(i) Midwifery

During the year 812 live and still births were assigned to the Area, 47 per cent. occurred in hospital and 53 per cent. at home, 18 of the midwife-booked cases of the latter being delivered in the presence of a doctor.

There were no maternal deaths, 26 still-births and 11 deaths in the first week of life.

Of the 10 County Midwives carrying out domiciliary midwifery in the district, 3 own cars which they are authorised to use in the course of their official duties. All are trained in the use of and possess apparatus for gas and air analgesia. Approximately 79 per cent. of the domiciliary cases were given gas and air analgesia.

(ii) Domiciliary Nursing

Nine nurses made a total of 26,004 home visits during the year, 12,822 (48 per cent.) of which were made to patients over the age of 65 years. Since these aged people usually require general care and general toilet, the time spent at each visit is frequently much longer than at the homes of younger patients and obviously with an ageing population, the case loads are going to become heavier even if the minimum attention is being given to ensure comfort. The following is an analysis of these visits and the types of cases nursed.

	AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION					
	0-5 yrs.	5-65 yrs.	65+ yrs.	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others
New cases	107	909	429	761	639	2	40	3	—
Visits paid	958	12,224	12,822	13,419	10,065	24	1,702	21	773

(d) Health Visitor Service

There are six Health Visitors in the Stanley Urban District, the following domiciliary visits being made during the year:—

Maternity and Child Welfare	..	..	..	..	11,446
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	1,260
General Health	..	..	..	..	8
Mental Deficiency	..	..	..	..	394
Schools	..	..	..	..	1,258
Aged People	..	..	..	..	170
Total	..	..	..	..	14,536

(e) County Ambulance Service

The Urban District is served by the County Ambulance Depot situated at East Street, Stanley which provides a 24-hour service. The establishment of personnel and vehicles at this depot is as follows:—

Driver-attendants	..	..	..	..	..	28
Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	9

Under a re-organisation of the Ambulance Service, which was implemented on the 1st April, 1958, the functions of the Consett Ambulance Control were transferred in a modified form to the Stanley Depot where the establishment now provides for a telephonist, who is responsible for taking calls during the day-time. During his off-duty hours this work is undertaken by the driving staff. As a temporary measure an arrangement has been made with the General Post Office for calls to be re-directed to the Central Control at Durham at times when the drivers at the Stanley Depot are absent on journeys, but consideration is being given to a revision of this system.

The work at the depot is under the overall supervision of the Central Control at Durham from where, by a system of direct telephone lines and radio, a close check is maintained on the disposition of vehicles in all parts of the county thus enabling any area to be reinforced as necessary.

The following table gives details of the work undertaken by the Stanley Depot during the year 1958. Whilst the bulk of this work would relate to the transport of patients living in the area of the Stanley Urban District, it will be realised that co-ordination of journeys result in patients from other areas also being carried. In the same way, the conveyance of patients in the Stanley Area is not restricted to the Stanley Depot.

Journeys	Patients carried			Mileage
	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
6,434	3,561	17,688	21,249	169,898

(g) Domestic Help Service

At the beginning of January, 1958, 303 cases in this district were being served by a Home Help. There were 113 new cases during the year and of the total of 416 cases receiving the service, 398 were old age pensioners, 16 were suffering from sickness, one from Tuberculosis and there was one maternity case. At the 31st December, 1958, there were 313 cases in the area.

Because of an increased allocation of money to this service the waiting list disappeared and many cases were allowed extra hours of assistance by the Home Help. This service, which has been used extensively during the year, is, together with the Home Nursing Service, probably of most benefit to the aged person, for either alone or together these services allow old people to remain longer in their own homes among familiar faces and places, and delay their admission to hostels and hospitals. Charges are made for this service, the amount depending on the income of the household.

(h) Mental Health Services

Occupation Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children:—

A wing of the former Infectious Diseases Hospital at Villa Real, Consett, converted in June, 1953, has continued to be used for mentally defective children excluded from school under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944. Eleven males up to the age of 15, 9 females up to the age of 21 years, and 4 females over 21 years of age from North West Durham travel daily to this centre. The Education Department has arranged from the onset the provision of school meals and free milk to these pupils. A special 'bus collects pupils each morning and returns them to their homes each afternoon.

This centre, by relieving parents of continuous strain and by teaching discipline, sense of social responsibility and elementary training in good habits, social behaviour, handicrafts such as rug-making and needlework, and road safety, provides a very valuable service to the community.

(i) Local Health Authority Hostel Accommodation

Admissions of those needing care and attention to local health authority hostels are arranged directly with the Welfare Department at Durham or after reference to the District Health Departments—an up-to-date waiting list for this accommodation being held locally.

During the year 17 old people were admitted—6 to Cambridge House, Barnard Castle, 2 to Weardale House, Stanhope, 1 to Stanfield, Stanley, 2 to Palatine House, Durham, 3 to Lee Hill, Lanchester, 2 to Chester-le-Street, and 1 to Ivy House, Sedgefield. The 6 cases admitted to Cambridge House were later transferred to Stanfield.

Many more old people than those who have been admitted were nevertheless referred to the Department but by means of visits, provision of home helps and home nursing facilities, many were able to continue in their own homes, indeed it was frequently only when grave illness and constant nursing attention was necessary that they had to be removed—and then to hospital. Quite often old people are reluctant to go to hospital, even though apparently everyone but themselves realises that this is the only course open to them and it was necessary for a General Medical Practitioner and myself to obtain a Magistrate's Order under the National Assistance Acts, 1948-1951 for the compulsory removal and detention in hospital of an old lady of 82 years who died a few days after admission.

C. HOSPITAL AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS' SERVICES IN THE AREA

Hospital Services

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The Secretary has kindly provided the following information on the Hospitals and Clinics serving this Area.

Maiden Law Hospital

At 31st December, 1958, the following number of beds were available:—

Ear, Nose and Throat	..	..	..	..	24
Chest Unit (Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	84
Total	..				108

Lee Hill Hospital

This Hospital, with a complement of 307 beds (62 of which are used as Part III accommodation for the County Council) and a Medical Out-patients' Department, deals with the Chronic Sick and includes a section for Orthopaedic Tuberculosis cases.

Bed allocation is as follows:—

Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	..	28
Mental	..	..	..	..	..	44
Chronic Sick	..	..	..	..	..	173
Part III Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	62
Total	..					307

Shotley Bridge General Hospital

Out-patient facilities for all the Specialties exist at this Hospital. The 533 beds are allocated as follows:—

Surgical	..	..	..	..	..	121
Medical	..	..	..	..	..	98
Gynaecological	..	..	..	..	..	43
Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	..	45
Paediatrics	..	..	..	..	..	4
Thoracic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	114
Radiotherapy	..	..	..	..	..	50
Plastic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	58
Total	..					533

Richard Murray Hospital

There are 32 Obstetric beds at this Hospital.

Infectious Diseases Hospital

Patients in the Area suffering from infectious diseases were admitted to the Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

South Moor Hospital

The 38 beds are allocated as follows:—

Thoracic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	24
Orthopaedic and General Surgery				..	..	14

Out-patient facilities for Surgery, Medicine, Ophthalmology, etc., also exist at this hospital.

Chest Clinic

As from the 12th October 1953, the Chest Clinic in the grounds of the South Moor Hospital replaced the service provided at the unsuitable premises at Barnhill.

The following sessions operate:—

Monday mornings, 9.15 a.m. each week	..	..	Males
Monday afternoons, 2 p.m. each week	..	..	Contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis.
Tuesday mornings, 9.15 a.m. each week	..	..	Pneumoconiosis cases.
Thursday mornings, 9.15 a.m. each week	..	..	Females.
Thursday afternoons, 2 p.m. each week	..	..	Children—up to 16 years of age. and B.C.G. Vaccination.

Venereal Diseases

Treatment and diagnostic facilities are provided by clinics outside the Area as follows:—

Newcastle General Hospital. Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Males and Females:—

Monday to Friday : 9 a.m. to 12 noon ; 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday : 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday (Emergency only) : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Durham County Hospital:—

Females : Monday and Thursday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Males : Monday and Thursday, 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Executive Council Service

There are 22 general medical practitioners, 4 dentists, 10 Ophthalmic medical practitioners (who test sight), and 11 chemists operating in the Urban District.

APPENDIX A

Year	Popu- lation	Deaths	Death Rates	Live Births	Birth Rates	Infan- tile Deaths	Infant Death Rates	Neo- natal Deaths	Neo- natal Rates	No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.								Tuber- culosis	
										Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Diph- theria	Polio- myeli- tis	Dysentery	Enteric	Food Poison	Pul.	Non Pul.
1937	50,830	597	12.99	756	16.45	49	64.81	—	—	—	151	—	332	—	—	3	—	28	24
1938	50,490	591	11.70	801	15.86	48	60.00	—	—	—	164	—	395	—	—	2	—	40	45
1939	50,020	594	11.94	718	14.35	53	74.00	—	—	8	77	3	196	—	2	2	—	38	36
1940	47,700	600	12.58	847	17.76	51	60.00	—	—	1,093	103	84	173	—	8	1	—	44	26
1941	46,000	566	12.30	811	17.63	70	87.00	—	—	262	120	73	105	—	4	—	—	43	23
1942	45,330	546	12.04	812	17.91	43	54.00	—	—	547	164	8	125	—	10	1	—	31	21
1943	44,950	571	12.70	844	18.77	54	65.00	—	—	637	196	229	113	—	—	1	—	44	29
1944	45,660	543	11.89	950	20.80	54	57.00	—	—	712	88	15	145	—	10	2	—	39	14
1945	46,440	574	12.36	862	18.50	47	54.30	—	—	241	80	241	194	—	11	2	—	33	12
1946	48,110	573	11.90	975	20.27	48	49.00	22	22.56	619	50	619	101	1	—	18	9	56	11
1947	48,510	631	13.00	1108	22.84	54	48.73	23	20.75	268	71	268	61	28	6	3	1	61	22
1948	48,920	609	12.45	926	18.93	44	47.51	19	20.51	788	181	788	40	6	4	2	1	77	14
1949	48,890	555	11.35	880	18.00	30	34.10	15	17.04	656	240	115	31	2	33	3	9	57	16
1950	48,480	561	11.57	769	15.86	26	33.80	12	15.60	379	107	391	23	3	391	—	20	53	11
1951	48,110	559	11.62	788	16.37	31	39.34	14	17.76	802	104	214	17	—	111	2	16	82	14
1952	48,080	566	11.77	819	17.03	33	40.29	24	29.30	849	141	179	10	10	22	—	13	49	14
1953	48,060	505	10.51	791	16.46	27	34.13	15	18.96	205	61	297	3	—	321	2	64	52	6
1954	48,020	544	11.57	728	15.16	19	26.10	12	16.48	435	47	126	1	2	41	—	17	58	9
1955	47,900	557	11.63	683	14.26	13	19.03	10	14.64	308	44	182	2	—	295	—	34	33	5
1956	47,860	577	12.05	773	16.15	21	27.10	15	19.40	76	174	282	1	—	122	—	62	31	8
1957	47,840	577	12.06	770	16.09	22	28.57	18	23.38	1,457	145	200	—	—	120	—	6	35	8
1958	47,760	535	11.20	786	16.46	16	20.36	12	15.27	566	64	38	1	—	89	—	3	22	6

APPENDIX B

ANALYSIS OF THE NOTIFIED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS FOR 1958

Name of Disease	Under 1 year		1		65 and 2		3		4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65 and Over		TOTAL	
	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	4	4	6	6	7	7	40	40	4	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	64
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	5	5	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	1	4	4	2	2	1	1	6	6	7	7	3	3	31	33
Measles	23	23	68	68	65	65	88	88	91	91	229	229	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	566	566
Whooping Cough ..	7	7	6	6	5	5	2	2	3	2	12	12	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	38	36
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	1	4	4
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Dysentery	1	1	3	3	3	3	11	11	7	7	23	23	8	8	4	4	17	17	11	11	1	1	89	89
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	38	38	79	79	78	78	109	109	108	108	308	308	16	16	10	9	25	25	20	20	5	5	797	795

N—Notified Cases.
C—Corrected Cases.

APPENDIX C

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. **INSPECTIONS** for the purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number		
		Inspec- tions	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	28	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	112	101	11	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	7	7	—	—
Totals	143	136	11	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	3	3	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	5	5	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	1	1	—	1	—
Totals ..	11	11	—	2	—

APPENDIX D

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Totals
Number killed (if known) ..	865	—	1	1,911	102	—	2,879
Number inspected	865	—	1	1,911	102	—	2,879
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI							
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	186	—	—	5	3	—	194
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	21.5	—	—	0.3	2.9	—	6.7
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :							
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	49	—	—	—	—	—	49
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	5.7	—	—	—	—	—	5.7
CYSTICERCOSIS							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX E

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

										Totals	Totals
No. of Properties inspected — notification										200	
— survey										28	
— otherwise										257	485
No. of Inspections carried out including reinspections											834
No. of Properties inspected and found to be infested with :											
Rats Major										4	
Minor										46	
Mice Major										2	
Minor										78	130
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority :											
L.A. Properties										26	
Dwelling Houses										62	
Others including business premises										—	
Agricultural										42	130
Total number of treatments carried out											130
No. of Preliminary Notices served—Treatment										2	
—Structural										—	2
No. of Third Party Premises treated											51
Total cost charged to Third Party Premises										£75 6s. 9d.	

APPENDIX F

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The three deposit gauges have been sited in the Annfield Plain area throughout the year. The following give the amounts of deposit at each particular site per month.

Tons per Square Mile per Month.						
Month.	New Kyo Hostels.		Clavering Place.		Langley Moor.	
	Total Solids.	Ferric Oxide.	Total Solids.	Ferric Oxide.	Total Solids.	Ferric Oxide.
January	24.78	—	9.26	—	14.70	—
February	43.22	—	34.03	—	24.16	—
March	30.88	—	61.04	—	23.96	—
April	33.95	—	15.37	—	19.09	—
May	Broken	—	28.46	1.24	55.74	6.18
June	Broken	—	31.18	5.07	17.59	0.91
July	30.58	5.77	22.75	4.50	25.50	1.01
August	27.18	4.44	7.75	1.44	15.41	0.87
September	34.48	3.57	12.95	2.48	14.39	0.64
October	44.09	5.67	11.81	1.90	28.75	0.91
November	22.28	1.47	3.39	0.54	13.19	0.37
December	22.74	1.70	11.21	1.38	17.75	0.87
Average	31.42	3.77	20.77	2.32	22.52	1.47

